THE Devil's Almanac:

BEING A

CURIOUS SET

OF

Helliſh Predictions.

Calculated for the

Britiſh Meridian,

From the

Glorious Firſt of APRIL, 1745.

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Helliſh Predictions.

Note, The Reader need not go to the *Devil* for the *Key*.

The Firſt of APRIL.

1 FOOLS will be as riſe, at leaſt, this Seaſon, as they were the laſt.

2 A certain *Welch* Knight will be confoundedly aſham'd of his Bubble's Bargain. His Place to be diſpoſed of a Pennyworth.

3 A hopeful General will ſet out ſome time or another to make the greateſt Campaign that ever was made.——*Note*, the Price of Laurel will be raiſed.

4 A Lord famous for Epiſtolar Extempore, will be employed as Hiſtoriographer to the Conqueſts in Embrio. His Stile in Battle Pieces being extremely admired.

5 A Quidam Poet, famous for Poetical Buckram, will puff the Publication of his Play on the Sixth Night of Acting; tho' indeed, it will run longer, for the Play does not ſo much deſerve to be damn'd as the Author of the fulſome Dedication.

6 A noted Journaliſt will go on thruming the old String; and what is certain is, that he will neither be minded nor bought off.

7 The People of *England* will make ME a Preſent of the *Spirit* of a late departed Stateſman; but I thank them for their Kindneſs, it is more my Intereſt that it ſhould remain among them.

8 In a certain Country famous for Heavineſs and Phlegm, there will be a Trial of Skill between Wit and Judgment.——*Note*, The Odds againſt the former.

9 The Duke of *Aremberg*, reinforced by the Elector of *Cologn*'s Troops, the *Saxons* and *Ruſſians*, who cannot fail of coming in Time enough, will ſwallow up *Maiſſebois*, before he can proceed any Lengths in the black and wiſked Deſigns of *France* againſt *Hanover*.

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10 One of your *made* noble Women will, on examining her Houſe Expences, find, to her infinite Joy, that ſhe has ſaved one Pound, ſix Shillings, and four Pence three Farthings in the Article of Small Beer, on the laſt Year's Run, and diſcover an Over-charge in the Milk-Score of Seven-pence Farthing; which will go near to coſt the Houſe-keeper her Place.

11 A Foreign Lady will run ſome Hazard of loſing her Favour, by her Alliance in Figure to the ungracious Broad-Bottoms.

12 Some of the *Khevenhuller* Coxcombs will have the Ague this Spring, as that chilly Diſorder has, of late, been very epidemical amongſt our Forces.

13 A great Man will, in the Cathedral of St. *Paul's*, in the Preſence of the Right Reverend Father in God the B——p of *L*———*n*, abjure the *Roman Catholick* Religion, and all the Mother *Gooſe*'s Tales in which it abounds, tho' I will do all I can to hinder it.

14 *Whitfield* and the *Weſleys* will pray devoutly for a Perſecution, that may make them be more taken Notice of than they are; but, indeed, the Government is not quite ſo kind as to oblige them in it; ſo that in a little Time the Methodiſts will be ſick of the full Liberty they have of playing the Fool, and running after MY Company of Farcical Strollers.

15 A Number of modern *Cato*'s will go out of Places, it is ſuppoſed they went into for no other end———but that they might go out again.

16 All Sickneſſes will be unhealthy this Year, and War a great Evil, as my Friend the Grand Seignior very gravely obſerves in his mediatorial Overtures.

17 A great Man, noted for the Fortune of a Prince, and the Husbandry of a Shopkeeper, will be recorded as he deſerves, for the great Things he has neither done nor promoted.

18 A Lady, on finding her Lord engaged with one of her Maids, will ſcrupulouſly repay him the Favour Cent per Cent, with two of his Footmen.

19 A certain Officer, of a great Name only, will moſt cordially repent the Folly of making a worſe Bargain than *Eſau*, who did not, at leaſt, ſell his Birthright for a Moſe of Froth.

20 A famous Pack Horſe, crouching under the Burthen of Years, Vices, and the Laſh of *any* M———y, will have the Impudence to complain, that Men of the firſt Families are expoſed to Scandal; as if any Birth ought, in a free Country, to leave ſuch Characters as his, ſacred or privileged.

21 The wretched Grub, who hugg'd himſelf for ſaying a good Thing, when he declared he could do nothing more agreeable to the Manes of his Father, than doubling the Muck he left him, and lives with a Spirit ſuitable to this noble End, will go near to hang himſelf, for the Loſs of Eleven Groats, which he will find he might have jocky'd a Chap for in a Land Job.

22 The *Jews* of *Prague* will find a more zealous Patronage than perſecuted Chriſtians, in Proportion to the Superiority of a Money'd Intereſt to a Religious one.

23 A certain great D——, run mad with Pride and Anceſtry, will be told, to his great Mortification, that the three Kingdoms do not contain a more intrinſically little obſcure Creature than himſelf; but Cuſtom and Habit will confirm him in his Mock-Grandeur, and he will play the Fool in State as uſual.

24 A Number of Fox hunters will hazard their inſignificant Lives in Purſuit of their ſtupid Pleaſure; and for their Encouragement may take MY Word for it, whatever becomes of their Necks——their *Brains* ſuffer no Hurt.

25 A Fry of Voluntiers will make their Campaigns in *Vaux-hall*, and *Ranelagh-Gardens*, where there will be ſeveral warm Rencounters, a great deal of Powder ſpent, and Batteries play'd in order to Aſſaults in Breach. *Note*, the Ladies will be Judges of the Field.

26 A Man of Diſtinction, Senſe, and ſome Singularity will every Day ſee more Reaſon to honour himſelf for diſdaining to eſpouſe a Boſom Plague, in allying himſelf with the Folly, Nonſenſe, and tawdry Fantaſque of the Women of his own Rank.

27 A fine Lady would be inconſolable for the Death of her Lap-Dog, but for that of her Husband, which will happen in the Nick, as if ſhe had beſpoken it for her Comfort.

28 Several good (by which I mean rich) Citizens, will over-eat themſelves, and others ruin or expoſe themſelves by

by being Fools enough to ape the worſt Airs of the worſt Sort of trumpery Nobility.

29 Some poor Rogues will go, in Courſe, to the Gallows for Crimes of infinitely leſs National Concern than thoſe for which ſome of *my* great Men have triumph'd over the Juſtice of their Country in Coronets, and Coaches.

30 There will be exhibited on a very public Stage, a grand *Droll*, or Burleſque Rehearſal of the Campaigns heretofore made by the intrepid and well-officer'd Train-bands, in the *Artillery-Ground*, *Bunhill-Fields*, &c.

31 All public Offices and Companies will be provided with ſpecial Skreens and Blinds, that as little Light may come at them as poſſible.

32 Our Navy, under the preſent *Adminiſtration* of it, will blow *Europe* out of the Water, if it is not quiet.

33 Mr. *Ezekiel Drybones*, a very eminent Lamp-lighter, will be married to Miſs *Beſs Bunter*, the only Daughter of Mr. *Joſeph Bunter*, Chimney-ſweeper and Soot-Merchant; a young Lady of Merit and fine accompliſhments.

34 The archbiſhop of *Clare-Market* will be tampered with to *accept* the Place of Puff-Maſter General to the Operations of the Broad-Bottom.

35 There will be a C———e of S———cy called out in ample Form of the Ladies of the *Britiſh* Fiſhery, to conſider of Repriſals on the *Plain Reaſoner* for invading their Province, and pirating their Character.

36 There will be a Duel fought between an *Engliſhman* and an *Hanoverian*, in an *inner Apartment*, in which the *Hanoverian* will, after a ſhort Conflict, drive the *Engliſhman* ſhamefully before him.

37 A Star that has been long taken for a fix'd one, will by a very eccentrical Motion dwindle to the Appearance of an *Ignis Fatuus*, which haunts the *Bogs*, and ſhines but to make ſilly People wander out of the Way.

38 The Bully of *Alſatia*, ſo famous for his metaphorical Flouriſh of cold Iron, and the Effuſion of Blood over his Claret, will be obliged to raiſe the Siege of the Cloſet, and make a forced Retreat, ——— unleſs I ſhould powerfully aſſiſt him.

39 As *Gemini* and *Libra* were Lords of the Aſcendant, at the Nativity of the Broad-Bottom, the Deſtiny of that Babe of Grace muſt, in courſe, be under the Influence of thoſe *Signs* of Power.

40 The Town will be bleſs'd with a Recruit of Fiddlers, Opera-Singers, and Dancers, from *Venice*, a Virtuoſo of great *Importance* being ſped thither *on Purpoſe* to *negotiate* them.

41 Mr. *Colley Cibber*, Poet Laureat, and a zealous Proteſtant, will have the Pleaſure, before he cloſes his Eyes on this Worldly Stage, to ſee his *Papal Tyranny* really *uſeful* to Numbers of his Countrymen, as Grocers, Chandlers, Cheeſemongers, *&c.* who will dole it away *gratis*, as pious People do *good* Books.

42 An Actreſs of ſome Note will be caught in the very Manner with a young Officer, and all her Excuſe to her keeping Cully, will be, that ſhe was learning her exerciſe.

43 Two Wits in Partnerſhip, will hammer out the Hiſtory of a Duke, more celebrated for his Military Fortune than his ſocial Virtues; and they will do well to bring it out in the Dog-Days, if there is to be no more Fire in it, than in *Leonidas* and in *Euridice*, or their Readers will be nummed to Death.

44 A Proteſtant Parſon will ſoon publiſh the Memoirs of the Life and Writings of the celebrated Mr. *Pope*, in which it will be pleaſant to obſerve, how he muſt mumble the Chouk, when if he reſpects the Laws of Truth and Candour, he muſt touch on the Hero's Biggotry; yes, that Childiſh Biggotry to his pitiful nonſenſical Religion, which he held faſt, to the Diſhonour of his ſuperior Senſe, as well of his Sincerity, whilſt he *profeſt* an honeſt Eraſmian Moderation.

45 There is no Repeal to be expected of the Stage-Act. *Reader, would you have the true Reaſon?* The Party of thoſe who have the pregnant Cauſe to fear the Satire of it, is *now* ſo *increaſed*, that it cannot be but too ſtrong for the Few, whoſe Worth and Virtue may bid it an Honourable Defiance.

46 About this Seaſon will be much wanted a Dry-Nurſe to a young Maſter, whom his Parents will hardly truſt Abroad without Leading-Strings, but the Malice of Hell itſelf ought not to ſuppoſe that *One*, eſpecially, is *old Woman* enough to accept of the Employ.

47 Some grave Heads of Colleges, will be ſo inſenſibly tranſplanted, from the animal into the vegetable Kingdom, that the World will hardly perceive any material Change of the Individuals.

48 The modern art of Negotiation or deep miniſterial Policy, which conſiſts in tranſacting the greateſt Concerns of the Nation abroad by *Cyphers*, will produce, in a little Time, Returns in *Cyphers*, from all the Courts to which thoſe *Characters* are employ'd.

49 The *Corſicans* will give freſh Marks of their Diſcontent. Thoſe ſturdy Iſlanders ſtill ſpurning the Government of their Maſters on the Continent, by a Sereniſſime Doge, and a Mob of Miniſters who lead that Senate.

50 In ranſacking the Papers of a Stateſman lately decea'd, there will be found a curious Tariff, or a Book of Rates, in which the Price current of every Man is ſet down from the Premier Speech maker in an Oppoſition, down to a *W*———*r E*———r.

51 The Country Innocents, who were debauch'd by fair Promiſes, will meet with a cool Reception from their Friends in the Country, for having loſt their *Honour* at the *Old Game*; but indeed, Reader, they are not wholly inexcuſable, for the Creatures were out of Place, and in haſte to be hired to a Maſter at any Rate.

52 *A* great Lady will continue to coquet it with her Cully, ſo effectually that ſhe will have his *Head* under her Girdle, and the involved, exhauſted, kind Keeper will not be able to make a *Settlement* of his own Eſtate without her *Hand* to it.

53 The War continuing, and the Want of Men increaſing, *Maidenheads* will be cry'd about the Streets like *Haſtings*, to the great Accommodation of thoſe pretty Fellows who ſtay at Home *purely* to take care of the Breed.

54 After a long Trial, in which a controverted Birth has been ſolemnly diſcuſs'd, and much Family-Scandal ripped up, the impartial Public will ſtill be at a Loſs to ſplit the Hair, between the Weight of *Iriſh* Evidence, and that of a bad Name.

55 A great Man will, this Seaſon, with much Difficulty, be reſtrained from a Viſit to his Country Seat, by the Uncertainty of the Weather on the preſent Horrizon, and Fear of his *new* Chariot-Wheels ſticking by the Way, or not *performin thorough* the thickeſt of the broad Road to it.

56 A young Lawyer, full of his florid Importance, who affects too much to take his Way, *Poſt*, to the Chancellorſhip through *Greece* and *Rome*, will do to take Matter of *Fact* as well as thoſe *Words* along with him, and

remember that neither *his Demoſthenes* nor *his Cicero* roſe in their Countries, by lowering the Price of Eloquence, to ſell it a King.

57 Poor Lord *Puzzle*! how dear will thy total Loſs of Importance ſoon coſt the Pride of that ſilly Head, which with ſuch Solemnity of Face ſold thy E——rs forever! Reader let the Tragi-comic Example warn you how you attempt ſuch Tricks. eſpecially without more Parts, than will juſt ſerve to make the greater Joke of you.

58 Whereas ſeveral Braſs Counters have been imprudently attempted to be impoſed on the Public under the Colour of their Stamp; this is warn all fair Dealers from being impoſed upon by Droſs and Refuſe however *worked* up, as they can never be *intituled* to *Britiſh* Currency, of which they have neither the *Weight* nor the *Touch*.

59 A L—— ſick to Death of his inſignificant Honours, will wiſh them to ME a thouſand Times, in return for his having accepted them at *Mine* and his *Dearee*'s Inſtigation; but as they create him a Hell of his own, I ſhould act out of Character were I not to leave him and his ſerene *Proſerpine*, yet a while to the due enjoyment of it.

60 What *Briton* will not, conſidering the National Debt and Arrears of the C—— L——, worſhip the Oeconomy of *H*———, which without draughting one Shilling from *Britain*, ſees an Accumulation of immenſe Treaſure, ſolely by its Trade and prodigious native Riches!!!

61 A young Lady, of the City, will carry a crack'd Utenſil to the Bridal Bed of her Lord, who will ſcratch his Head on finding the *Flaw* ſo ſtaring; but if all the Husbands, to whom the like adventure has happened, were tempted to hang themſelves, gentle Reader, recollect whether you have nothing of that Sort to fear for yourſelf.

62 The Free-Maſons will repeat their Aniverſary Farce of a Cavalcade, in the Teeth of the public Deriſion; but be not offended, at the triumphant Proceſſion of one trifling Branch of FOLLY, thro a Capital where nothing elſe governs: Were all her *Miniſters* as harmleſs, their Equipages would provoke more Mirth, and leſs Indignation.

63 The Ghoſts of ſeveral Statelmen, who have departed this political Life, will be ſeen ſtill to *haunt* thoſe Places, where their Power was *ſuppoſed* to have died, to the great Diſcomfort of ſeveral of his M——ty's Liege Subjects, who conſcientiouſly wiſh their Spirits, laid in the Red Sea.

FINIS.

B. L.